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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Agent File No.: 15680-1us PTN/df

Applicant: Fabien LAVOIE  
Serial No.: 10/731,110  
Filed: December 10, 2003  
Title: LOAD-CARRYING APPARATUS  
Examiner: Charles N. Greenhut  
Group Art Unit: 3652  
Confirmation: 4511

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION AND  
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
U.S.A.

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This is in response to the Office Action issued on March 24, 2006, for which a retroactive extension of time of three months is respectfully requested. The Applicant is herein filing a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. 1.114. A *Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal* and a *Petition for Extension of Time* are attached for this purpose.

Kindly amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 1 and 13 are herein amended.